

Message Text

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ACTION AGR-10

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PASS AGRICULTURE

FROM AG ATTACHE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR EI
SUBJECT: UNIFICATION OF AGRICULTURAL SERVICES TO BOOST AGRICUL-
TURAL PRODUCTION

1. THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE OF IRELAND ANNOUNCED THE NEW RE-
ORGANIZATION PLAN OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH EDUCATION AND ADVISORY
SERVICES UNDER ONE CENTRALIZED ADMINISTRATION. THE NEW AUTHORITY
WILL TAKE OVER THE AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTE, THE COUNTY AGRICULT-
URAL INSTRUCTORS, THE SPECIALIST ADVISORY SERVICES, THE VETERIN-
ARY RESEARCH SERVICE AND THE STATE AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS.

2. THE BOARD OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE AUTHORITY WILL HAVE RESPON-
SIBILITY FOR RUNNING THESE ESSENTIAL SERVICES ON BEHALF OF FARMERS.
ULTIMATELY THE AUTHORITY WILL REST WITH THE MINISTER OF AGRICUL-
TURE.

3. THERE WILL BE NO CIVIL SERVICE CONTROL, AND THE WHITE PAPER
SPELLS OUT CLEAR FREEDOM OF ACTION IN THE SERVICE OF AGRICULTURE.

4. THE AUTHORITY WILL NOT HAVE THE STRONG DEGREE OF AUTONOMY
VESTED IN THE PRESENT AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSITIUTE. THIS AUTON-
OMY, HOWEVER, WAS ERODED IN PRACTICE BY THE INSTITUTE'S DEPEND-
ENCE ON STATE FUNDS. THE NEW AUTHORITY WILL HAVE THE SAME PRACT-
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ICAL FREEDOM AS THE INSTITUTE, AND WILL HAVE GREATER STRENGTH

ARISING OUT OF THE MARRIAGE OF RESEARCH TO THE ADVISORY GROUPS.

5. COMMENTS: SINCE IRELAND JOINED EC THERE HAS BEEN CONSTANT DEMAND ON ITS GROWING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND COMPETITION HAS BECOME KEENER. IRELAND COULD NOT AFFORD TO MAINTAIN SEVERAL INSTITUTIONS WHICH MAINTAINED LITTLE COOPERATION AMONG THEMSELVES AND OFTEN DUPLICATED EACH OTHER' WORK. THERE HAS BEEN WASTE OF TECHNICAL KNOW-HOW AND FUNDS FOR THE SUPPORT OF INEFFICIENT SERVICES. THE NEW AUTHORITY GOES A LONG WAY TOWARD MEETING THE WISHES OF THOSE WHO STROBE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION IN AGRICULTURE INVOLVING RESEARCH AND A CENTRALIZED ADVISORY SERVICE. RENDAHL

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